CANADIAN
MOVING PICTURE
DIGEST

RAY LEWIS
Editor and Publisher

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"There's Life In The Old Dog Yet"

THEY tell us that a cat has nine lives, but there is no human attachment to the idea, whereas, "there's life in the old dog yet" gives us a glowing feeling; and makes the thought akin to some quality which we attribute to ourselves when we become old enough to appreciate its content.

Some of the old pictures which are being resurrected, revived and reissued are five, or six years old, some reissues of more recent vintage.

The stories with war themes, with sea battles, with planes and submarines are among the most popular, but there are some favorites which relate themselves to times of peace and have their value in the quality of the production, story and stars.

They say that "Necessity is the mother of Invention". Necessity is the mother of the revival of old films. This Necessity has arisen from several causes, the new product is not yet being generally released; and with the exception of one or two pictures from as many major producing companies, there is little new product in circulation.

Most of the big pictures of last year's programs have been played, the best have been played out by prior runs, therefore, exhibitors turn to big productions and big names in order to tide over the gap between big pictures of last year and the new box-office titles.

New houses also create the demand for film revivals, unless they desire to be the last run in a zone of many theatres, or wait and wait until a picture has finally got around to its last run.

Whatever is the cause, there appears to be "life in the old dog yet", or the Circuits would not be interested in booking in the reissues or revivals, in view of the fact that the circuits have first chance at the pictures, first runs and an abundance of product from which to choose and which to play.

There are some zones or districts where a revival picture has not played itself out, due to the fact that it did not receive a date in that particular district, that its playing-time was short, or that a growing generation was too young to have seen the picture, or that the picture's popularity grew at the end of its playing-time career.

The distributors must feel happy about finding hundreds of dollars on their books where only a dollar was entered. It's a "Conciliation" which makes good bookkeeping. The exhibitors find an advantage in getting some quality pictures to fill in the open spaces.

It might be noted that a revival or reissue has but a limited public appeal; and that such an appeal can be quickly exhausted. Only a minority of picture patronage is interested in again seeing a picture which it has seen a few years ago. The exhibitor who plays a revival or reissue after it has played over a circuit will have a better chance with a picture of less magnitude, but which is new.

Although there may be "life in the old dog yet", it is not the "go-getting creative vitality" which can make or break box-office records.

Incidentally, where is the new product and where is all the talk about it? This is an Industry which depends on its "pep". The War may have toned us down, but why are we not talking show business, about the greatest, grandest, most colossal pictures and most glamourous stars, million dollar productions, etc. In Toronto we are talking Giveaways. Soon there will be Christmas shopping, Lent, Easter Holidays, Spring Cleaning and Renovation and the dog-days of Summer with no life in the old dog! Rushing the Seasons, perhaps, but in the March of Time, Time waits for no man and box-offices that are sluggish are so boring for the cashier.

—Editor.

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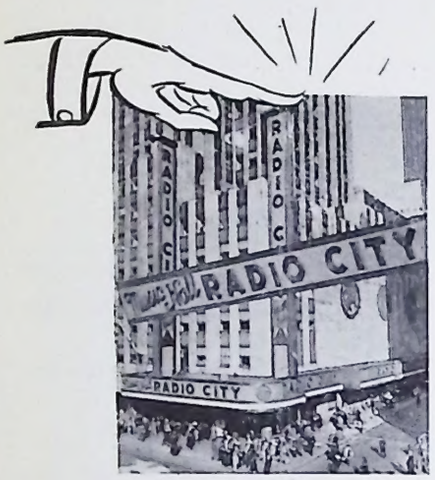
TODAY

Special M-G-M Flash!



Radio City Music Hall Got The Lubitsch Touch!

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The eyes of the nation are on New York! GARBO'S "NINOTCHKA" is packing the Music Hall. Scarcely a man, women or child anywhere who hasn't read in newspapers or magazines or heard over the air about M-G-M's delicious comedy. Keep building up the enthusiasm for your play-date. Tell them that "NINOTCHKA" was selected by the world's largest theatre for the World Premiere. It's smart to whet their appetite when you have such an eagerly-awaited entertainment! Never has there been such a build-up for any picture! Keep Them Hotchka for "Ninotchka"!

"Balalaika" means Wine, Women and Song!

POMONA, CAL.—The greatest musical that M-G-M or any company ever made was sneak-previewed here this week. The picture is "BALALAIKA." It is Nelson Eddy's best role since "Naughty Marietta" and it launches a glamorous personality in Ilona Massey. Audience reaction tremendous!

The applause was deafening!

CULVER CITY, CAL.—A second Preview group has returned to the M-G-M Studios confirming the exciting reaction to last week's sneak showing of William Powell and Myrna Loy in "ANOTHER THIN MAN." The opening flash on the screen of these two popular stars literally brought down the house. The applause was deafening. And now the Preview Post-Cards are pouring in. Seldom have so many been received by the Studio. The overwhelming opinion of the fans is that "ANOTHER THIN MAN" is the best of the entire series. Following immediately after the sensational Preview of "BALALAIKA" at Pomona and in view of M-G-M's succession of hits, this new triumph has set the Film Colony buzzing with talk. Out here the tip-off is "Watch Leo—M-G-M is on the march!"

M-G-M

Appoint Seven New Members To Aid National Film Board

COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP DISTRIBUTION SERVICE

Ottawa, Ont. — Trade Minister Euler has announced the appointment of seven members to an Interdepartmental Committee to aid the National Film Board.

Representative of all Government departments engaged in film work, the new committee will advise the film board in development of a central government film distribution service and a public information service in reference to film distribution.

The committee which will assist John Grierson, newly-appointed Government Film Commissioner, and Captain F. C. Badgley, director of the Canadian Government Motion Picture Bureau, consists of the following:

F. C. Nunnick, Director of the Publicity and Extension Branch, Department of Agriculture; R. J. C. Stead, Superintendent of Parks and Resources Publicity, Mines and Resources Department; Ray A. Brown, public relations representative of the Labor Department; Baden F. Farrell, of the Public Relations Branch of the Post Office Department; H. F. S. Paisley, Director of Publicity, Fisheries Department; Major R. J. Whitelaw, general staff, National Defence Department, and D. Leo Dolan, Chief of the Canadian Travel Bureau, Transport Department.

SEEK RESTRICTIONS RELEASE ON PROPERTY

Niagara Falls, Ont. — A communication was brought up at the City Council meeting, received from Barnett Laxer Co. Ltd., of Toronto, requesting removal of the residential restrictions on lot 139, west side of Victoria Avenue. Negotiations have been entered into for a purchase of this property for a theatre site. The matter was referred to the Town Planning Commission.

SPECIAL SOLDIER MATINEES

Calgary, Alta. — The Kinema Theatre is giving a series of four matinee showings of current programs for soldiers and the Tivoli will do likewise. Picture operators and theatre staffs give their services free.

BETTE DAVIS AT NORTH BAY

North Bay, Ont. — Bette Davis, interviewed here during a visit to see the Quints, is reported as saying she had plenty of time to get back to Hollywood, and that she would not begin work until January. "All This and Heaven Too" is the film she names as possibly her first assignment upon her return to the Warner studio.

UNITED AMUSEMENTS REPORTS INCOME DOWN

Montreal, Que. — The United Amusements Limited, operating a chain of twenty-six theatres in Montreal and district, reports a decline in earnings for the first 9 months, ended September 30th.

D. Allan Murray, Vice-President of the company, reported that paid admissions showed a moderate decline from the comparable 1938 period. The attendance since September 1 does not reveal any difference for the same period last year, but the spring season was worse as a result of weather conditions.

NEW CADET THEATRE

Esquimalt, B.C. — The New Cadet Theatre, formerly the Rex Theatre, has been opened after being modernized under the direction of Mr. S. B. Kennedy, owner and manager of the new house.

Theatre will operate on daily show policy, with matinees Saturdays and Wednesdays. Double features, with two changes weekly, will be presented.

Mr. Kennedy comes from West Selkirk, Manitoba, and has been in the theatre business for the past eighteen years.

CHILDREN'S PARTY

Chatham, Ont. — Seven hundred children attended the Hallowe'en Party sponsored by Alderman C. L. Goodard and A. P. Drohan, manager of the theatre, at the Capitol here. Children in costume were admitted free of charge between 7 and 7.30 o'clock.

In addition to the regular theatre program, games and prizes for the best costumes added to the fun. Boy Scouts assisted the house staff, and Hallowe'en passed without any property damage in the town.

WILLIAMS JOINS R.C.A.F.

Regina, Sask. — Members of the Rex Theatre staff held a farewell party recently for Hubert Williams, one of the staff, who left for eastern Canada with the Royal Canadian Air Force.

ZORN IN REGINA OKAYS METROPOLITAN

Regina, Sask. — Renovation of the foyer and front of the Metropolitan Theatre has been approved by E. A. Zorn, western district manager of Famous Players Corp., a recent visitor in Regina.

Work, which will amount to approximately $10,000, will star almost immediately and is expected to be finished by Christmas. Washrooms will be moved to the basement, giving the Metropolitan Theatre one of the largest foyers in Regina; front and marquee are expected to be changed. A new screen will be installed and the proscenium arch is expected to be changed so as to give more depth to the pictures.

Mr. Zorn and Bill Novak, Capitol manager, motored to Shaunavon, Sask., during Mr. Zorn's stay in Regina, to inspect the Plaza Theatre.

I.T.A. WANTS LATE SATURDAY NIGHT SHOWS

Vancouver, B.C.—The Independent Theatres Association has laid a request before the Civic License Committee for permission to keep theatres open after midnight on Saturday when the occasion warrants.

Alderman H. D. Wilson argued the situation was controlled by the Lord's Day Act and is outside City Council jurisdiction. It was agreed to refer the matter to Corporation Counsel for a report.

TRAILERS AVAILABLE

Saint John, N.B. — "Lew" McKenzie, manager at Saint John of Vitagraph Limited, has received at the Exchange, fourteen prints of the Red Cross Trailer which will be shown in approximately seventy theatres in this territory. Beginning November 10th this theatre co-operative service will last until November 25th.

WORK ON "ORPHEUM"

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. — Work has started on the $30,000 repairing and redecorating job at the Orpheum Theatre here. Kennedy and McLarty Bros., local firm, was awarded the general contract. Bob Stevens of Sudbury is rebuilding this house.

MRS. FARDELLA PASSES

Toronto, Ont.—The film trade here was saddened to hear of the death of Mrs. Samuel Fardella, wife of the operator of the Grand Theatre at Fergus, Ontario. She passed away after having been ailing for the past year.

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BRUCE PEACOCK.....Regina, Sask.

SWELL "CAVELL" TIE-UPS IN REGINA

Regina, Sask. — "Nurse Edith Cavell" did good business at the Capitol Theatre here and its three-day run was extended to six days. Over 100 nurses from Regina General Hospital attended one night's showing, government officials were guests the next night, following night's picture was under the auspices of His Honor Lt.-Gov. A. P. McNab, and patron for the next night was Brig. C. B. Russell, O.C. M.D. 12. Uniformed men were especially invited on last named night.

During the week prominent city and government officials were interviewed and their comments on the picture printed in the movie column of the Leader-Post.

SANDLER TAKES "DUCHESS"

Toronto, Ont.—The Duchess Theatre, Dundas Street West, has been taken over by Nat Sandler. It is rumoured that the former owner was forced to sell owing to financial difficulties.

GRIESDORF IN REGINA

Regina, Sask. — Dave Griesdorf, manager of United Artists, Winnipeg, was a recent Regina visitor on his way to Calgary.

Shooting The Stars

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has set **Spencer Tracy** to feature in the film **"Edison, The Man"**, which Clarence Brown will direct. Concurrently, **M-G-M** will make **"Young Tom Edison"** with **Mickey Rooney** portraying Edison as a boy and with Norman Taurog directing . . . **Humphrey Bogart** has been assigned to the role of the guerrilla bandit leader in **Warner Bros.** production of **"Virginia City"**, starring **Errol Flynn, Miriam Hopkins** and **Randolph Scott** . . . The start of camera work on **Edward Small's** production **"My Son, My Son!"** has been set back to November 15th, in order to allow **Brian Aherne** to complete his assignment opposite Carole Lombard in **"A Vigil in the Night". Louis Hayward** and **Henry Hull** both have important roles in **"My Son, My Son!"** . . . **Columbia Pictures** has signed **Harry Carey** and **Wynne Gibson** to work in **"The Cop From Hell's Kitchen"** which is the working title of the film in which **Bruce Cabot** and **Jacqueline** Wells are featured . . . **Vera Zorina,** last seen in **"On Your Toes",** has been borrowed from **Sam Goldwyn** to star in **"European Plan",** a new film which she will make for **Darryl F. Zanuck** at the **20th Century-Fox Studios. Zorina** was to star in a new **Dwight Wiman** production on **Broadway** when she was recalled to **Hollywood . . . Warner Bros.** has purchased the rights to film **"January Heights",** a modern romantic drama, for a **Miriam Hopkins** feature . . . **Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer** has purchased an original story by **Dorothy Thompson,** entitled **"Dawn's Early Light",** a story on the **"American"** angle . . . With the addition of **Walter Pidgeon** to the cast of **"House Across The Bay", Walter Wanger** has announced the completion of leading roles for the film, which is now in its third week of production . . . **Pat O'Brien** has been chosen to co-star with **Merle Oberon** and **George Brent** in **Warner's "We Shall Meet Again"** . . . **Columbia Pictures** has assigned **Rita Hayworth** to the feminine lead opposite **Tony Martin** in **"Music In My Heart",** new romantic comedy formerly titled **"Passport to Happiness"** . . . . **20th Century-Fox** has renewed the contracts of **George Sanders** and **Marjorie Weaver.** Miss Weaver will be seen soon in **"The Cisco Kid and The Lady"** which features **Cesar Romero** . . . **Edward Small** announces his plan to film **Alexander Dumas'** classic, **"The Corrican Brothers",** central characters of which are a pair of **Siamese Twins.** This will be the **third Dumas** book which Small has picturized, **"The Count of Monte Cristo"** and **"The Man In The Iron Mask"** being two Edward Small Dumas triumphs.

SOLDIER'S BENEFIT

Saint John, N.B. — The benefit held at the Regent Theatre, Saint John, a midnight showing sponsored by the merchants of the North End of Saint John, was a great success. The theatre, lighting and service was donated by J. M. Franklin of the Mayfair Theatre and A. Lockhart, manager of the Regent Theatre, gave every assistance. All proceeds were given to the Soldier's Comforts Association, an organization of fifty-two women's societies in Saint John.

ROY MITCHELL MANAGER

Toronto, Ont. — Roy Mitchell, formerly with the Independent Poster Supply, has been made manager of the of the Queen Theatre, operated by Harry Clarfield at Toronto.

FAIRLEY TO HEAD OFFICE MASCARO TO BELLEVILLE

Belleville, Ont. — With the transfer of Gordon D. Fairley to head office of Hanson Theatres at Toronto, Tommy Mascaro has been appointed manager of the Capitol.

Mr. Mascaro started his theatrical career at the Grand Theatre, London, some twenty years ago, and has been connected with the business since. He has also filled theatre assignments as manager in both Hamilton and North Bay. A good sport and possessed of a likeable personality, Mr. Mascaro will quickly fit into the Belleville post.

"JAMAICA INN" STUNT

Regina, Sask. — Bill Novak at the Capitol Theatre is handing out keys to every adult who buys a ticket. When "Jamaica Inn" opens this week he'll have a treasure chest with a goodly amount of cash in it on display in the lobby. Whoever has a key to fit the lock will be able to attend a lot of shows.

PARIS THEATRE OPENED

St. Boniface, Man. — The Paris Theatre here was officially opened on Friday, by Mayor George MacLean. Situated on the site of the Provincial apartment block which was destroyed by fire some months ago, the theatre has a seating capacity of 700, and is completely modern throughout. Parking facilities are provided at the rear of the theatre.

M. H. Halparin is the owner of the new theatre, and his son will act as manager. Policy of the house will be double bills, with two changes of bill weekly.

NOVEMBER FEATURE RELEASE DATES

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

"Babes In Arms" .....Nov. 3
"At the Circus" .....Nov. 10
"Bad Little Angel" .....Nov. 17
"Ninotschka" .....Nov. 24

WARNER BROS.

"Kid Nightingale" .....Nov. 4
"Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex" .....Nov. 11
"Dead End Kids On Dress Parade" .....Nov. 18

W-B FIRST NATIONAL

"We Are Not Alone" .....Nov. 25

RKO RADIO

"Flying Deuces" .....Nov. 3
"Marshal of Mesa City" .....Nov. 10
"Meet Dr. Christian" .....Nov. 17
"That's Right, You're Wrong" .....Nov. 24

COLUMBIA

"Blondie Brings Up Baby" ....Nov. 9
*"The Amazing Mr. Williams"*Nov. 23
"Cafe Hostess" .....Nov. 30

20th CENTURY-FOX

"Heaven With A Barbed Wire Fence" .....Nov. 3
*"Drums Along The Mohawk"*Nov. 10
"Too Busy To Work" .....Nov. 17
"Daytime Wife" .....Nov. 24

Pickup Your Red Cross Campaign Trailer At Your Local Exchange

RAY PRESENTS

THE Canadian Moving Picture Digest and Ray Lewis have been served by Stella Falk, managing editor of The Canadian Independent with a writ in the matter of an alleged libel for which the plaintiff claims ten thousand dollars damages. Ray Lewis and The Canadian Moving Picture Digest have served notice on Stella Falk and The Canadian Independent, also certain members and officers of the ITA and the Press Committee in an action for libel.

Mrs. Falk alleges that an article published in The Digest Ray Presents column, issue of Sept. 23rd, is libelous. The article which Mrs. Falk singles out for her action against me and The Digest was NOT PUBLISHED TO INJURE MRS. FALK, BUT WAS PUBLISHED TO DEFEND MYSELF FROM THE IMPLICATIONS IN AN ARTICLE WHICH MRS. FALK WROTE AND WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT, ISSUE OF SEPT 15th, IN WHICH SHE STATED THAT I WAS A "STOOGE" OF MR. N. L. NATHANSON. That statement and other derogatory statements which form part of her comment concerning me in The Canadian Independent, issue of Sept. 15th, ARE NOT TRUE. The editorial policy of The Digest and the whole course of activities of its writer, Ray Lewis, during the past twenty-five years should be sufficient for Mrs. Falk, or anyone else desirous of giving due weight to considerations of fairness and good faith.

THE exhibitors of Ontario are especially interested in "Clearance", "Conciliation", and a few more trade practices which are part of the business of doing business in this industry of film-making, film-selling and exhibition.

Did you ever hear of a "red herring" as a politcal expedient? Ever hear of a filibuster? In respect to a filibuster see Columbia's "Mr. Smith Goes To Washington", and this will give you as clear a picture as possible in the matter of "filibusters".

A few times during my association with this film business, I have observed that the Independents had a chance of getting somewhere, but then something always happened, and that something was their own fault, or the result of circumstances which they could have controlled if they only had the ability to stick together on a question which involved their mutual interests.

I remember the formation of The Motion Picture Theatreowners Association of Canada. The president of that Independent National Theatreowners' Association and its national secretary were subservient to Certain Interests. Mr. John Brady as president in Ontario and myself as national organizer and secretary of the Ontario division, together with a group of Independent members, travelled to Montreal in order to accuse the president and secretary of their betrayal and to force their resignation.

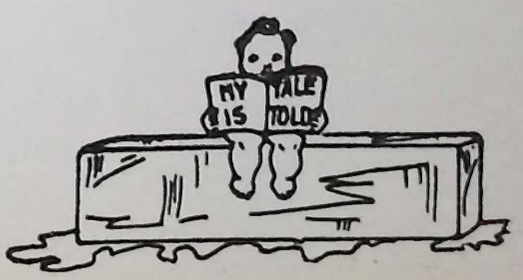
It was alleged that our national president received five hundred dollars; and a lease for a theatre which he owned in Montreal as the price for selling us out.

That same thing has happened to the Independents several times, in different ways. Several of our leading Independents of those days have passed on, many are still operating theatres and can recall the incident at Montreal as referred to, and other incidents. Some of our leading Independents have vowed that never again would they belong to an Exhibitors' organization, the reason given for this attitude being that the Independents will not stick together. Some of our Independents have joined forces with the Interests which they previously fought. Some have leased their theatres, some are in the Co-operatives, some have been in and are now out, some went broke, but enough of these remain to remember what happened at the Government Investigation of the Film Industry, and some are sufficiently alert to follow the history of the legal battles in the United States and to sum up such observation and experiences with, "where do we go from here?"

THERE is no doubt but that it is possible to form an association of exhibitors in the film industry which can remain united in respect to a protection of mutual interests. The distributors have successfully accomplished this unity of interests. True, there are but a few distributors in their association and all of these centralized, whereas the exhibitors are scattered, and their interests are different, their problems governed by local conditions. All of these facts make it difficult to secure the loyalty in an exhibitor organization as the distributors secure from their members in the protection of their respective interests, the latter which are the interests of all of the members.

Let us suppose that the Independent Exhibitors in Canada have arrived at a starting point from which there is a possibility of reaching an anticipated and hoped-for goal. Let us suppose then that such a goal is not to the advantage of certain Interests, you know what politicians do who wish to sidetrack a live issue, they introduce the "red herring", or the "filibuster". For Independents to battle with each other saves those interested in weakening the strength of the Independents the effort and expense, the onus of such a battle; and it gives the opposing interests the best alibi in the world to point to the Independents and say, "Look how they battle to destroy each other".

Has it occurred to those Independents who have publicly attacked the owners of The Pylon Theatre, the theatre which Ray Lewis built, that they are alienating an Independent Exhibitor who might have been of some use to them; and that in their statements made concerning her and The Pylon Theatre they reveal a selfishness of interest which cannot help them in holding some of their members, or acquiring new members, who have a sense of values and judgment; and a memory for services rendered to the Independents and the Industry for many years, by Ray Lewis without pay and without thanks.



"Blackmail" Thriller --"Three Sons" Homey Drama "Lives of Elizabeth and Essex" Technicolor Epic

"BLACKMAIL"

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

AS a companion feature to Jascha Heifetz in "They Shall Have Music", this picture seemed somewhat out of place, but on a different bill, it's the perfect picture for those who like lusty red-blooded thrills, with plenty of good dramatic acting tossed in. Edward G. Robinson tops the cast, and his is a powerful delineation, but at times he is completely overshadowed by the fine work of a former citizen of Toronto, Gene Lockhart. Those of you who saw Lockhart's work as the informer in "Algiers" have an idea of just how good a performance he can give when presented with the opportunity, and in "Blackmail" he has his best role to date, once more as the villain. Ruth Hussey is quite satisfactory as Robinson's wife, and young Bobs Watson is properly appealing as his son. Guinn Williams provides the laughs.

Robinson plays the part of a fugitive from a Southern chain gang, to which he had been sentenced for a crime he didn't commit. He has settled down, married, is raising one boy and living comfortably as head of a company that specializes in putting out oil-well fires. Into his happy life comes Gene Lockhart, who confesses that he was guilty of the crime Robinson was convicted of. He offers to sign a full confession freeing Robinson forever from the fear of return to the chain gang. His price is high, but Robinson feels it's worth it. He pays, only to have Lockhart double-cross him, and inform the police where the fugitive is. Robinson returns to the chain gang, while Lockhart grows rich on the proceeds from a well Robinson had optioned, as Robinson's family starves. Escaping a second time, Robinson returns to his home-town, and sets fire to Lockhart's well, to bring the latter out of hiding. He forces Lockhart to confess the original crime and the blackmail, then proceeds to put the fire out.

The background of the oil-fields with their constant drama is comparatively virgin territory for the films, so we can expect an avalanche of films of the same pattern from every company. It's an effective background, though, and in this picture at any rate provides plenty of action and suspense.

H. C. Potter's direction is largely responsible for the fast pace at the opening of the picture being maintained throughout. Interest is kept at a high pitch constantly.

Running time—80 minutes.

"THREE SONS"

RKO RADIO

THIS is another of those down-to-earth, homey dramas for which Edward Ellis is becoming noted. Similar to "Man to Remember" and "Career" in tempo, it lacks, however, the Garson Kanin touch that raised "Man to Remember" so high. However, on a dual bill, with an action feature as the other half, it will gain its share of praise, and prove an adequate draw. It is, I believe, a remake of a film entitled "Sweepings", produced a number of years ago by the same company, with Lionel Barrymore and Gregory Ratoff in the roles portrayed in this picture by Edward Ellis and J. Edward Bromberg.

Film opens with a shot of Mrs. O'Leary's cow upsetting the lantern and thus starting the great Chicago fire. Into the desolated city comes Daniel Pardway and his wife, Abigail. They open a store on what is to become the famous Loop. The store prospers, and in the ensuing years, Abigail gives birth to three boys, and a girl, then leaves them motherless. Dan raises his family, always looking forward to the day when they will step into his shoes at the store. With the help of Abe Ullman, his manager, he builds the store into a vast enterprise, but one in which his family show little interest. Finally, thinking he can really make them realize their responsibility, he gives them each shares in the company. But this, too, fails, as all but the youngest boy sell their stock. Dan dies a sadly disillusioned old man, but hopeful that the young son will carry on the tradition of the store.

Edward Ellis was the logical choice for 'Daniel Pardway', and some will be quite surprised to see how youthful he really is, as he appears in the opening sequences. Kent Taylor, barely recognizable, plays the eldest son, 'Gene'; Robert Stanton, a winner in the second Jesse Lasky "Gateway to Hollywood" Contest, is 'Bert', the second son; Dick Hogan is excellent as 'Freddie', the baby of the family, while Virginia Vale, co-winner with Stanton in the second Lasky contest, portrays Phoebe the daughter. J. Edward Bromberg nearly steals the whole show as 'Abe Ullman', Katharine Alexander will remind you a great deal of the late Alice Brady in "In Old Chicago" and "Young Mr. Lincoln". Others in the cast include Alexander D'Arcy, Grady Sutton, Adele Pearce, William Gargan and Barbara Pepper.

Directed by Jack Hively.

Running time—70 minutes.

"THE PRIVATE LIVES OF ELIZABETH AND ESSEX"

WARNER BROTHERS

PRODUCED on a vast and lavish scale, with hundreds of extras, magnificent settings, and filmed entirely in Technicolor, this latest epic offering from the Warner Bros. studios bids fair to outshine all previous efforts. With Bette Davis and Errol Flynn co-starred, and a stellar supporting cast headed by such potent box-office names as Olivia de Havilland, Donald Crisp, Alan Hale, Henry Stephenson, Ralph Forbes, Vincent Price, etc., the picture is a cinch to create new box-office records. Screenplay was adapted by Norman Reilly Raine and Aeneas MacKenzie from Maxwell Anderson's play, which rumour has it Miss Davis had been trying to get Warners to buy for her for several years.

Miss Davis' performance must be put down as one of her greatest. Once more flaunting the supposed demand for pretty faces, she has donned a pasty make-up, and topped it off with a hideous red wig, such as Elizabeth is known to have worn. But the forcefulness of her personality soon overcomes the first shock of her appearance. Her constant change of moods, now the quick-tempered, haughty queen, now the humble and self-pitying lover, is perfect, for whatever the mood, you are always aware that she, Elizabeth, sits on the throne of England, and Heaven help him or her that would unseat her.

Errol Flynn is properly dashing as the swaggering Earl of Essex, but his love scenes lack conviction, probably because it is hardly possible to imagine a handsome young nobleman like Flynn, in love with an unhandsome woman so much his senior.

Story opens with the triumphant return to London of Essex, after sinking the Spanish fleet at Cadiz. All England hails him, but the Queen, jealous of his rising popularity, a jealousy encouraged by Essex's enemies at court, degrades him before the court. Alone with him later, she weakens, and reaffirms her love for him. Aware that many of the prominent Lords would like Essex out of the way, the Queen makes him promise to stay with her, but Lord Burghley, Sir Walter Raleigh and the others are too clever for him, and trick him into accepting the command in Ireland, against the rebel, Tyrone. Against the Queen's wishes he goes to Ireland, and there is completely routed by the Irish patriot, due

(*Continued on Page 7*)

"THE PRIVATE LIVES OF ELIZABETH AND ESSEX"

(*Continued from Page 6*)

to lack of support from England, which he has written constantly for, but failed to receive. He returns and marches on London at the head of his army. There he learns that his letters to Elizabeth and hers to him were intercepted by Burghley's confederates. He disbands his army, when Elizabeth promises to share her throne with him, but once Essex's soldiers are gone, she orders her own guard to arrest him, and take him to the Tower. Found guilty of high treason, Essex is sentenced to be beheaded. Elizabeth, in a last minute interview, begs him to ask her pardon, finally even offering to share her throne with him, but Essex realizes that his lust for power would be the ultimate ruination of England. He dies on the block, leaving behind a heart-broken, lonely Queen.

Heading the supporting cast in merit is Donald Crisp as Sir Francis Bacon. Crisp gives his usual excellent performance. Olivia de Havilland, cast as a lady of Elizabeth's court, in love with Essex, has been given very little footage, but scores at every opportunity. The others all do good work, with a special word of praise for a newcomer—to me, at least—Nanette Fabarea, for an effective bit.

William Dieterle directed, with Robert Lord producing, under the watchful eye of Hal B. Wallis. Credit to Sol Polito for the camera work. Erich Wolfgang Korngold was responsible for the incidental music.

Running time—106 minutes.

SHORT SUBJECTS

"OFFICER DUCK"
RKO-PATHE

OUR favorite movie star is up to his old tricks, getting himself into trouble with ease, and extricating himself with considerably less ease. This time Donald is a policeman. Assigned to pick up "Tiny Tom", Officer Duck thinks it will be a cinch, since "Tiny Tom" must certainly be a "little guy". When he turns up to be a veritable man-mountain, and one who "hates cops", Donald is momentarily nonplussed. But he puts his thinking cap on, and goes to work. Disguised as the abandoned baby of an old trigger-pal of "Tiny's", Officer Duck is taken into the gangster's home, and after some hilarious carryings-on, succeeds in putting the cuffs on "Tiny", and turns him over to the authorities.

A riot from beginning to end.

Running time—10 minutes.

"WORLD'S FAIR JUNIOR"
VITAPHONE

A SHORT subject which presents a number of kid acts, with Skippy Curle acting as master of ceremonies.

Running time—20 minutes.

"NAUGHTY NEIGHBORS"
VITAPHONE

A VERY amusing "Looney Tune", starring the inimitable Porky Pig. Porky and his neighbor, Petunia Pig, sign a non-agression pact, to end a feud between their barnyard families that has existed for years. But like the majority of non-agression pacts, it fails dismally, with the feud breaking out anew, the minute Porky and Petunia turn their backs. Porky takes command of the situation and with his newly-invented Feud Pacifier, completely subdues the combatants, and Peace settles over the realm.

Running time—7 minutes.

"INFORMATION PLEASE, No. 2"
RKO PATHE

SECOND in this series of short subjects based on radio's popular quiz program. Features again Clifton Fadiman, literary editor of the New Yorker, firing the questions, with sports editor John Kiernan, columnist Franklyn P. Adams ("F.P.A."), and composer, conductor and jack-of-all musical trades, Oscar Levant, on the receiving end, with ex-Heavyweight Champion Gene Tunney, as guest-receiver. The ad-lib(?) quips fly as thick and fast as the questions and answers, and the final result discloses that Gene Tunney is an authority on the works of William Shakespeare.

Better than the first of the series, and worth extra billing anywhere.

Running time—10 minutes.

"RUBINOFF AND HIS VIOLIN"
VITAPHONE

A RATHER good "Melody Master", featuring Rubinoff, his violin, and his orchestra, with Jane Clair doing the vocals. Rubinoff's orchestra is well-known via the airwaves, and his selection of numbers for this subject were well suited to his particular styling. Outstanding is his rendition of "Dark Eyes". P.S.—When are they going to cut out those dance routines that spoil every musical short? Soon, we trust.

Running time—10 minutes.

BOY SCOUT MATINEE

Lethbridge, Alta. — Annual Boy Scout toy shop matinee was held at the Capitol Theatre Nov. 2. Admission was a used toy or 10 cents.

"RIDE, COWBOY, RIDE"

THIS Vitaphone two-reeler, featuring Dennis Morgan, one of Warner's leading men in feature production, will prove an adequate program booster for any audiences. It contains action, music, romance and comedy, all crammed into twenty minutes, and which could have easily been stretched into a feature picture, if the producers had so desired. In fact, many feature films contain a lot less entertainment that this short possesses. Story features Maris Wrixon as an Eastern gal, headed for the West to visit her mother. On the road, her stagecoach is held up, which helps to make her 'sour' on the West. The discovery that her mother is a saloon-keeper doesn't help matters any. However, when Dennis Morgan leads a band of cowboys in defeating a bandit gang, Maris changes her mind about 'them thar hills". Good entertainment.

Running time—20 minutes.

ANOTHER "HOYT"

Saint John, N.B.—Gerald and Mrs. Hoyt are being congratulated upon the arrival of a baby girl, born at Saint John, N.B. Mr. Hoyt is manager here for Empire Universal Films.

DOWSLEY NEW MANAGER

Yarmouth, N.S. — C. K. Dowley has assumed the position of manager of the Capitol Theatre at Yarmouth, N.S. Harold Parker who held this position for a number of years is with his Military Unit in Nova Scotia.

LEADER-POST TIE-UP

Regina, Sask. — Peter George, of General Films, Ltd., Regina, is working on a trailer for the Regina Leader-Post and the Capitol Theatre to announce play dates of The March of Time, sponsored by the Leader-Post in Regina.

MISS MACDONALD RECOVERING

Saint John, N.B. — Friends of Miss Nancy MacDonald, of the Empire-Universal staff, will be glad to hear she is recovering nicely after an operation for appendicitis. She is a patient at the General Hospital, Saint John.

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"Mr. Smith Goes To Washington" Closes Third Big Week At Radio City Music Hall, New York

Bill Stewart Passes At London

IN THEATRE BUSINESS MORE THAN 50 YEARS

London, Ont.—William L. Stewart, veteran theatre man, passed away suddenly following a heart attack, at his residence here. In his 70th year, Bill Stewart was still operating his theatre, the Rex, which he built in 1927.

Born near Wallaceburg, at the age of 15 he started his stage career as a member of the Cool Burgess troupe, which took him through Eastern Canada and the United States. Following his association with this company, he spent eight years with Robert H. Baird, a well-known comedian, after which he free-lanced with a variety of road shows. In 1904 Bill Stewart opened at Brantford with his own company, and after two years moved on to Springback Park where he spent five years as manager of the theatre. In the spring of 1936 Mr. Stewart celebrated the 50th anniversary of his entry into stage and theatre work.

INTRODUCE FOTO-NITE

Orillia, Ont. — Foto-Nite has been introduced as a new contest series at the Geneva Theatre here. The first contest, on Tuesday night, resulted in the winner missing the cash prize of $35 which would be paid for his photograph because he was not in the audience. However, the winner receives $1 for registering. The next week the prize offered is $45.00.

QUITE A BABY!

Toronto, Ont. — There's a new member of the family at the home of G. T. Hogarth, operator of the Roxy Theatre, Kingsville. Carole is her name, and according to the reports of the film salesmen she's quite a baby!

TIVOLI BOX-OFFICE GOOD

Kingston, Ont. — The Tivoli Theatre, recently opened here, is the only house to run on the double feature policy in Kingston. The house has two changes of program weekly. Reports on business are good, with last week-end the feature "U-Boat 29", receipts were exceptional.

SHOWS FOR SOLDIERS

Saint John, N.B. — It is rumored that equipment for motion pictures to be shown for the benefit of soldiers stationed at Saint John, N.B., will be installed at their quarters.

SOURKES IN SAINT JOHN

Saint John, N.B. — Irving Sourkes of Montreal, salesman for Vitagraph Limited is spending a few days in this territory.

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R.C.M.P. Film Ready

Regina, Sask. — Members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Regina turned actors the other day when Peter George, Regina motion picture photographer, trundled his cameras and big lights into the R.C.M.P. town station to film a courtroom sequence for the film of life in the "mounties" that he is now completing. Men of the detachment played all of the roles except that of judge.

CAPITOL SING-SONG

Saint John, N.B. — Very lusty singing, marked the All Saint John Sing-Song held at the Capitol Theatre, Saint John. This was put on the C.B.C. network and was led by George Young, who originated the idea and held the first sing-song at the Capitol Theatre.

Trans-Canada Showings

TORONTO

AVENUE
"Winter Carnival" (U.A.) with Ann Sheridan, and "Smashing The Spy Ring" (Columbia), with Ralph Bellamy.

IMPERIAL
"Disputed Passage" (Paramount), with Dorothy Lamour and Akim Tamiroff.

LOEW'S
"They Shall Have Music" (United Artists), with Jascha Heifetz, Joel McCrea and Andrea Leeds.

PYLON
"The Sky Giant" (RKO Radio), with Richard Dix, Joan Fontaine and Chester Morris, also "Should Husbands Work" (Republic), with the Gleason Family.

SHEA'S
"Ex-Champ" (Universal), with Victor McLaglen, Tom Brown and Nan Grey.

UPTOWN
2nd week. "Jamaica Inn" (Paramount) with Charles Laughton and Maureen O'Hara.

SAINT JOHN

CAPITOL
"Fifth Avenue Girl" (RKO Radio), with Ginger Rogers and Walter Connolly.

MAYFAIR
"Lady of the Tropics" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer), with Robert Taylor and Hedy Lamarr, also "Mr. Moto Takes A Vacation" (20th Century-Fox), with Peter Lorre.

STRAND
"U-Boat 29" (Columbia), with Conrad Veidt, Valerie Hobson and Sebastian Shaw.

MONTREAL

CAPITOL
"Babes In Arms" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer), with Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland.

LOEW'S
3rd week. "The Women" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer), with Norma Shearer, Joan Crawford and Rosalind Russell.

ORPHEUM
2nd week. "The Real Glory" (Goldwyn-U.A.), with Gary Cooper, David Niven and Andrea Leeds.

PALACE
2nd week. "Jamaica Inn" (Paramount), with Charles Laughton and Maureen O'Hara.

PRINCESS
"Here I Am A Stranger" (20th Century-Fox), with Richard Greene, Richard Dix and Brenda Joyce, also "Pack Up Your Troubles" (20th Century-Fox), with the Ritz Brothers and Jane Withers.

WINNIPEG

CAPITOL
"Jamaica Inn" (Paramount), with Charles Laughton and Maureen O'Hara.

GARRICK
"Mr. Smith Goes To Washington" (Columbia), with James Stewart and Jean Arthur.

LYCEUM
"The Angels Wash Their Faces" (Warner Bros.), with Ann Sheridan and The Dead End Kids.

METROPOLITAN
"Hollywood Cavalcade" (20th Century-Fox), with Alice Faye and Don Ameche.

CALGARY

CAPITOL
"Babes In Arms" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer), with Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland.

PALACE
"Lady of the Tropics" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer), with Hedy Lamarr and Robert Taylor.

STRAND
"Susannah of the Mounties" (20th Century-Fox), with Shirley Temple, Randolph Scott and Margaret Lockwood.

VANCOUVER

CAPITOL
"Babes In Arms" (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer), with Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland.

DOMINION
"Bachelor Mother" (RKO Radio), with Ginger Rogers and David Niven, also "Career" (RKO Radio Pictures), with Ann Shirley and Edward Ellis.

ORPHEUM
"Disputed Passage" (Paramount), with Dorothy Lamour, Akim Tamiroff and John Howard.

PLAZA
2nd week. "They Shall Have Music" (Goldwyn-U.A.), with Jascha Heifetz, Andrea Leeds and Joel McCrea.

STRAND
"Double Crime On The Maginot Line" (Grand National), and "Pride of the Blue Grass" (Warners).